

Executive Summary

ES-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

Every five years, the City of Springfield undertakes a planning process in which it assesses its community needs, seeks input from citizens, and devises a strategy to accomplish priority projects.

The City of Springfield, through its Development Services Division works to create and sustain a healthy, vibrant City that stimulates balanced growth through economic development, housing options, neighborhood stabilization, community development and support for Springfield residents.

During each year of the Consolidated Plan, the City publishes an Annual Action Plan, which indicates the programs to be carried out during the year.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

This document provides the roadmap for city strategies to accomplish Consolidated Plan goals over the next five years. Based on review of the data presented in this document, as well the input received through an extensive community engagement process, the City has established the following four goals to guide its strategies during program years 2015-2019.

Economic Development

Over the next five years the City will expand job training, job development, and job readiness programs to effectively develop a competitive workforce. It will promote an environment that encourages entrepreneurship and small business growth, strengthens existing businesses, and expands economic opportunities. The City will support organizations that contribute to the revitalization of neighborhood commercial districts. In addition, Springfield will promote sustainability and smart growth development through improvements in transportation choices of all modes, brownfields remediation, and historic preservation.

Outcomes: 75 Businesses, 25 Jobs, 10 Units

Neighborhood Stabilization and Housing

The City will improve the quality of the City's housing stock and undertake coordinated development projects in order to revitalize its most distressed neighborhoods. The City will preserve and expand housing options for residents to access safe, sanitary, and affordable homes.

Outcomes: 159 Housing Units, 400 Households Assisted, 75 Other

Community Development

The City will work to improve the physical environment through enhancement of streets, parks, streetscapes, open space, and remediation of blight. It will strive to create and maintain appropriate community facilities, to provide support and increased opportunities for residents of Springfield with particular focus on City's youth, and to design and implement projects which will increase the City's resilience to natural disasters.

Outcomes: 145,000 Persons Assisted, 50 Buildings, 5000 Housing Units, 1,945 Other

Homeless and Special Needs Populations

The City will continue to undertake coordinated strategies to end homelessness. It will support special needs populations with housing options, supportive services and facilities as appropriate.

Outcomes: 700 Households Assisted, 6,750 Persons Assisted

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Springfield Development Services Division reviewed the goals and actual outcomes from the past consolidated plan. As a result of this evaluation, it was determined that some programs are no longer necessary and some new programs have been added. In addition, the amount of funding for the programs has changed. This internal evaluation was added to feedback received from the survey and public meetings held during the Consolidated Plan planning process to give the City a clearer picture of goals to be accomplished over the next five years.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City encourages its citizens to participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan and Performance Reports, CAPER.

The City will encourage the input of low moderate income residents by outreach to the public through mailings, conducting a series of public hearings at various stages of the planning process, creating a system to accept and respond to written comments from the citizens.

The City encourages participation by low and moderate income persons, particularly those living in slum and blighted areas and in areas where community development funds are proposed to be used, and by residents of predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods.

5. Summary of public comments

Summary of public comments attached as part of this document.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

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